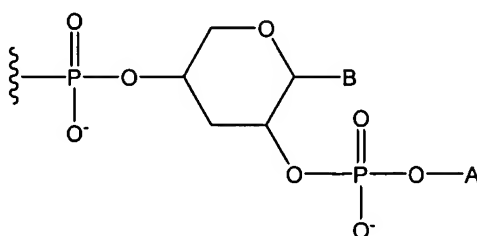


## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### Listing of the Claims

1. (Original) A conjugate according to the following structure:

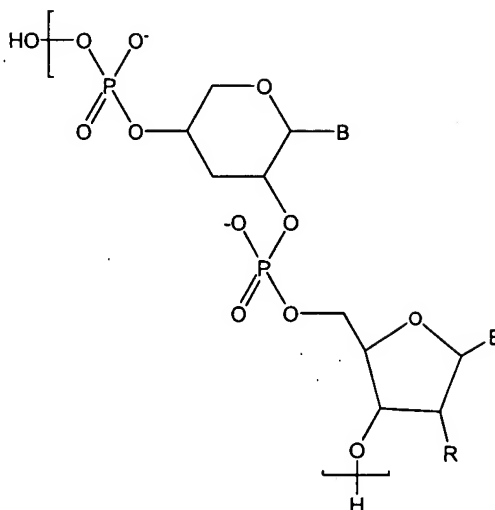


wherein A is selected from the group consisting of DNA, RNA, peptide, protein, antibody, functional antibody fragment, and any other biomolecule; and

wherein B is selected from the group consisting of 9-adeninyl, 9-guaninyl, 1-thyminyl, 1-cytosinyl, 1-uracilyl, and 1-indolyl.

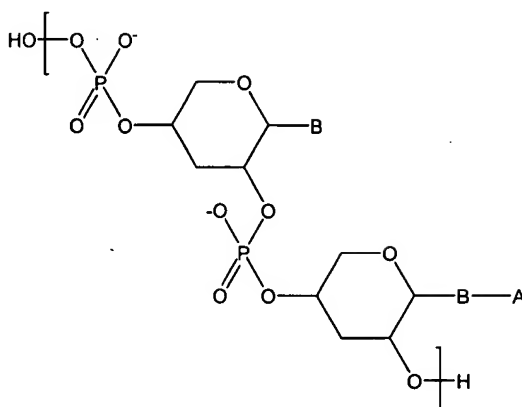
2. (New) The conjugate of claim 1, wherein the pentopyranosyl nucleotides are in the D configuration.
3. (New) The conjugate of claim 1, wherein the pentopyranosyl nucleotides are in the L configuration.
4. (New) The conjugate of claim 1, wherein the pentopyranosyl nucleotides are selected from the group consisting of ribo-, arabino-, lyxo-, and xylopyranosyl nucleotides.

5. (New) A conjugate of the structure:



- wherein R is H or OH, and
- wherein B is selected from the group consisting of 9-adeninyl, 9-guaninyl, 1- thyminyl, 1- cytosinyl, 1-uracilyl, and 1-indolyl.
6. (New) The conjugate of claim 5, wherein the pentopyranosyl nucleotides are in the D configuration.
7. (New) The conjugate of claim 5, wherein the pentopyranosyl nucleotides are in the L configuration.
8. (New) The conjugate of claim 5, wherein the pentopyranosyl nucleotides are selected from the group consisting of ribo-, arabino-, lyxo-, and xylopyranosyl nucleotides.

9. (New) A conjugate of the structure:



- wherein A is selected from the group consisting of DNA, RNA, peptide, protein, antibody, functional antibody fragment, and any other biomolecule; and
- wherein B is selected from the group consisting of 9-adeninyl, 9-guaninyl, 1-thyminyl, 1-cytosinyl, 1-uracilyl, and 1-indolyl.
10. (New) The conjugate of claim 9, wherein the pentopyranosyl nucleotides are in the D configuration.
11. (New) The conjugate of claim 9, wherein the pentopyranosyl nucleotides are in the L configuration.
12. (New) The conjugate of claim 9, wherein the pentopyranosyl nucleotides are selected from the group consisting of ribo-, arabino-, lyxo-, and xylopyranosyl nucleotides.